



**BILLING CODE 3510-22-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**RIN 0648-XE630**

**New England Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of a public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The New England Fishery Management Council (Council) is scheduling a public meeting of its *Scallop* Committee Meeting on Wednesday, June 8, 2016, to consider actions affecting New England fisheries in the exclusive economic zone (EEZ).

Recommendations from this group will be brought to the full Council for formal consideration and action, if appropriate.

**DATES:** This meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at 9:30 a.m., to view the agenda, see **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn Boston Logan Airport, 100 Boardman Street, Boston, MA 02128; telephone: (617) 571-5478; fax: (617) 561-0798.

*Council address:* New England Fishery Management Council, 50 Water Street, Mill 2, Newburyport, MA 01950.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director,  
New England Fishery Management Council; telephone: (978) 465-0492.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Agenda**

The Committee will review the general workload for 2016 based on Council priorities and a draft action plan for *Scallop* Framework 28 (FW28) and potentially identify recommendations for prioritizing work items in upcoming actions. The Committee will also review progress on potential management measures that may be included in FW28, including: 1) measures to restrict the possession of *shell* stock inshore of 42° 20' N; 2) Modifications to the process for setting *scallop* fishery annual catch limits (ACL flowchart); 3) Measures to modify scallop access areas consistent with potential changes to habitat and *groundfish* mortality closed areas; and 4) Development of gear modifications to further protect small *scallops*. The Committee will provide research recommendations for the 2017/2018 *Scallop* Research Set-Aside (RSA) federal funding announcement and potentially discuss other RSA policies and program details.

The Committee will give a brief update on the required five-year review of the limited access general category IFQ program as well as review Advisory Panel recommendations. Other business may be discussed.

**Special Accommodations**

This meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Thomas A. Nies, Executive Director, at 978-465-0492, at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

**Authority:** 16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*

Dated: May 17, 2016.

Tracey L. Thompson,

Acting Director,

Office of Sustainable Fisheries,

National Marine Fisheries Service.

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